

**SALVIA BOOLEANA (LAMIACEAE), A NEW SPECIES FROM  
NORTHEASTERN MEXICO**

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ABSTRACT

*Salvia booleana* B.L. Turner *spec. nov.*, is described and illustrated. It belongs to the sect. *Fulgentes*, a small group with about eight species, all having large red flowers (corollas mostly 3-5 cm long), where it relates to *S. fulgens* Cav. It is distinguished from the latter by numerous characters including habit, leaf shape, bract size, vestiture and distribution.

KEY WORDS: Lamiaceae, *Salvia*, sect. *Fulgentes*, México, Nuevo León, San Luis Potosí, systematics

Routine identification of Mexican plants has revealed the following novelty.

**SALVIA BOOLEANA** B.L. Turner, *spec. nov.* Figure 1. TYPE: MEXICO. San Luis Potosí: Mpio. Charcas, Charcas, "on wetbank of Arroyo", Jul-Aug 1934, C.L. Lundell 5470 (HOLOTYPE: LL!, Isotype: TEX!).

Similis *Salviae fulgenti* Cav. (*Salvia fulgens*) sed differt laminis foliorum subdeltatis, basibus foliorum plerumque cordatis, et caulibus valde glandulosis-pubescentibus, indumento 0.6-1.0 mm alto.

Perennial herbs 60-100 cm high. Stems densely glandular-hirsute, the vestiture 0.6-1.0 mm high. Midstem leaves 4-7 cm long, 2.5-4.0 cm wide; petioles 1.5-3.0 cm long; blades cordate-deltoid to subdeltoid, about as wide as long, mostly subcordate at base, pubescent like the stems, margins crenulodentate, the apices mostly obtuse. Floral bracts ovate, soon deciduous, the upper immature bracts 8-10 mm long, 2-4 mm wide, the apices gradually acuminate. Flowers (2-)4-6 to a node. Calyces mostly 11-15 mm long, glandular-pubescent; upper lobes 3-4 mm long, 9-ribbed. Corollas red to orangish-red, 3.0-4.2 cm long; upper lips 12-15 mm long; lower lips 10-12 mm long. Stamens attached near the orifice, the anthers mostly loosely exerted somewhat beyond the upper lip, rarely not, ca. 2 mm long, attached near the base (1/4 the anthers' length). Styles pubescent, the upper branches 2-3 times as long as the lower. Nutlets linear-ovoid, ca. 4 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, veinous, glabrous.



ADDITIONAL SPECIMENS EXAMINED: MEXICO. Nuevo León: Mpio. Aramberri, N of Aramberri, 995 m, 16 Jun 1990, *Hinton et al.* 20340 (TEX); N of Aramberri, 970 m, 1 Sep 1990, *Hinton et al.* 25019 (TEX); Sierra Vieja, 12.2 mi along dirt road turnoff to Ejido Capadero, just N of Dr. Arroyo, 6900 ft., "In dry stream bed", 20 Oct 1984, *Saunders-Scherrer* 13476 (TEX).

*Salvia booleana* belongs to the sect. *Fulgentes* of *Salvia*, sensu Epling (1939). The nomenclatural history of this section is discussed in some detail by Ramamoorthy (1987), but no recent taxonomic study of the taxon is available, in spite of its array of attractive large red-flowered species.

Epling (1939) recognized (and keyed) six species as occurring in the section, adding an additional species with the description of *Salvia sharpii* Epling & Mathias in 1957, which is probably a weakly differentiated populational element of *S. microphylla* H.B.K. The present addition brings this total to eight, and additional species are certain to follow as Mexico becomes more thoroughly collected.

Type material of *Salvia booleana* was apparently included by Epling (1939) in his concept of *S. fulgens*, but with the comment, "Lundell's specimen from Charcas, while similar in flowers to the southern forms is markedly glandular with short-deltoid leaves." Which is certainly true; indeed, all of the specimens cited above possess such leaves and, combined with their relatively small calyces and much-reduced floral bracts, mark the plants concerned as very distinctive, certainly deserving of specific rank as morphologically defined by Epling and yet others.

*Salvia booleana* reportedly occurs along dry washes in relative xeric habitats from 800 to 2000 m; *S. fulgens* is a taller plant with much larger leaves occurring in mostly moist montane habitats above 2000 m (distributed from southern San Luis Potosí southwards to the states of Puebla and Morelos).

It is a pleasure to name this taxon for George Boole Hinton (great grandson of the late renown Mexican collector, George Boole Hinton), frequent companion on field forays with Jaime and Jorge Hinton, son and grandson, respectively of the primal sire, G.B. Hinton. A photograph of this young Hinton can be found in Turner (1996). My principal reason for selection of the epithet concerned is to establish a familial record of sorts: five names from a male lineage representing four generations, all included in the same genus. These include:

1. *Salvia hintonii* Epling - named for G.B. Hinton, the father.
2. *Salvia jacobi* Epling - for James Hinton, the son (pers. comm., James Hinton)
3. *Salvia jaimehintoniana* Ramamoorthy - honoring James Hinton, the son.
4. *Salvia jorgehintoniana* Ramamoorthy - honoring George Hinton, the grandson.
5. *Salvia booleana* B.L. Turner - honoring George Boole Hinton, the great grandson.

And this does not include *Salvia leninae* Epling, named for a remarkable pack animal of the Hinton's, a mule named Lenina. *Salvia*, with 500 or more species, can comfortably ingest such effrontery. What I like about the eponyms concerned is that most of the species (all except *S. jacobi* and *S. hintonii*) occur in the state of Nuevo León, and the surviving kin of G.B. Hinton, all residing in Nuevo León on their

Rancho Aguililla, are now surrounded by floristic "headstones" that will extend far beyond their natural lives. I like that kind of perpetuity for such dedicated workers!

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